Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JMSEYMOUR:DJW APPROVED BY EUR/EE:CWSCHMIDT L/M - MR. MALMBORG (PHONE) SCA - MR. HENNEYMEYER (PHONE)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 074158

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO, US

SUBJECT: ARTUKOVIC

REF: A) ZAGREB 193, B) 76 STATE 296394

1. INS IS CONSIDERING A NEW APPROACH IN THE ARTUKOVIC CASE AND HAS INFORMED THE DEPARTMENT TO DELAY SENDING ITS LETTER (REF B) UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. THE NEW APPROACH WOULD INVOLVE RE-EXAMINATION OF GROUNDS FOR ISSUANCE OF THE STAY OF DEPORTATION IN 1959 ON THE BASIS OF THE TIME ELAPSED SINCE THEN. UNDER THE PROCEDURE, INS WOULD NOTIFY ARTUKOVIC HE HAS 30 DAYS IN WHICH TO APPLY FOR A NEW STAY OR IT WILL EXPIRE. THIS WOULD REQUIRE ARTUKOVIC OR HIS ATTORNEY TO COME BEFORE AN INS HEARING OFFICER TO SHOW CAUSE AS TO WHY THE STAY SHOULD NOT BE LIFTED. IF ARTUKOVIC LOSES HIS CASE CONFIDENTIAL

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BEFORE THE HEARING OFFICER, HE COULD, OF COURSE, APPEAL THE DECISION TO THE APPROPRIATE COURT. IN ANY CASE, A FIRM DECISION TO PROCEED ON THIS BASIS IS STILL PENDING IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

2. ADDITIONALLY, REPRESENTATIVE HOLTZMAN HAS INTRO-DUCED A BILL THAT WOULD REQUIRE DEPORTATION OF ANY ALIEN WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE PERSECUTION, UNDER NAZI GERMAN AUSPICES, OF ANY PERSON FOR REASON OF RACE, RELIGION, OR CREED. THE LEGISLATION WOULD APPLY ONLY TO THOSE WHO ENTERED AFTER 1952. THE LAW PREVIOUSLY APPLICABLE HAD CONTAINED PROVISIONS DENYING ADMISSION TO THOSE WHO HAD ENGAGED IN SUCH PERSECUTION. BECAUSE ARTUKOVIC ENTERED BEFORE 1952, HOLTZMAN'S BILL WOULD NOT APPLY TO HIM, BUT INS HAS ADVISED IT WOULD FACILITATE ACTION AGAINST OTHER ALLEGED WAR CRIMINALS, THUS GENERALLY TIGHTENING OUR POLICY ON THIS ISSUE.

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